



# SOCAD

## Army Career Degree Program

### Is the SOCAD Army Career Degree plan right for me?

You can view the full list of completed Army Career Degrees by MOS on-line at:

<http://www.soc.aascu.org/socad/ACD.html>

Link to your MOS and explore the available degrees negotiated specifically for your MOS.

Download the one that best fits your personal and professional education goals.

### ACTION PLAN

**Step 1.** Examine your MOS's SOCAD Army Career Degree. Note the college credit granted for your military training and MOS experience that will satisfy specific degree requirements.

**Step 2.** Tell your Army Education Services counselor that you want to pursue a SOCAD Army Career Degree. Discuss with the counselor any college courses you have completed that may apply toward the degree.

**Step 3.** Contact the college representative listed in the SOCAD ACD degree map to learn about enrolling in the desired degree program. The college will complete an evaluation of your ACE-recommended credit for military experiences and prior college coursework to let you know where you stand in terms of remaining degree requirements. The college representative will assist you with the college application and registration processes. Soldiers enroll in courses and apply for tuition assistance through the GoArmyEd.com Web site:

<http://GoArmyEd.com/>

**Step 4.** Once enrolled in the college degree program, request a SOCAD Student Agreement from the institution offering the ACD in your MOS. Institutions will provide SOCAD Student Agreements when degree-seeking Soldiers have completed six semester hours. Soldiers must take a copy of their Student Agreement to the ESO to have it placed in their E-file.

**If you need help** with the SOCAD Army Career Degree, go to the SOCAD Web site for additional information. If questions remain, use the SOCAD ACD links provided, send an e-mail, or phone 800-368-5622.

### What is SOCAD?

SOCAD stands for "SOC Army Degree" program. It consists of a select group of about 120 of the more than 1,800 SOC colleges. They evaluate your past learning experiences (college courses, tests, MOSs, Army schools, etc.) and provide you with a SOCAD Student Agreement that lists credits awarded and those still needed to graduate. If you relocate and must complete your degree with courses from other colleges, they guarantee to accept transfer courses from SOCAD colleges without individual approval.



1307 New York Avenue, N.W. • Fifth Floor  
Washington, DC 20005-4701

800/368-5622 • 202/667-0079 • fax 202/667-0622

E-Mail: [socad@aascu.org](mailto:socad@aascu.org)

Web Site: <http://www.soc.aascu.org/socad/>

SOC is sponsored by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities and the American Association of Community Colleges together with 13 other national associations in higher education, the Department of Defense, the Military Services including the National Guard, and the Coast Guard.



Photos courtesy of the U.S. Army



**Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges**





**Providing Degree Options Linked to Military Occupational Specialties**

**<http://www.soc.aascu.org/socad/>**

## **What are SOCAD Army Career Degrees?**

SOCAD Army Career Degrees are Associate and Bachelor's degrees:

- directly related to Soldiers' military occupational specialties (MOSs),
- provided by civilian institutions that award maximum credit for related military training and occupational work experiences, and
- provide distance learning course options to fill any remaining knowledge gaps toward requirements.

**SOCAD Army Career Degree (ACD) plans include college credit granted for:**

- Army MOS experience and service school training
- National testing programs such as CLEP, DANTES, ECE
- Distance Learning courses listed in the DANTES *Independent Study Catalog*
- Industry/Occupational Certifications and Licensure Exams (e.g., FAA)

**Army Career Degrees are being updated continuously and developed for additional MOSSs. Soldiers are encouraged to check the SOCAD Web site for the current list at:**

**<http://www.soc.aascu.org/socad/ACD.html>**

On average, Soldiers can earn 10-15 semester hours of college credit for their service school training and MOS work experience.

Academic credit for Army training and MOS work experience has been pre-negotiated between the college/university and SOCAD professional educators. Soldiers benefit from SOCAD guaranteed course transferability from more than 120 SOCAD civilian colleges offering classroom-based instruction on or near Army installations, as well as a growing number of distance learning providers.

Senior non-commissioned officers and MOS subject matter experts provide input and advice on the selection of these degrees relevant to your specialty. Army Career Degrees are often presented to Soldiers during AIT and/or BNCOC as career/personal enhancement opportunities. One unique feature of the Army Career Degree program is that it identifies American Council on Education (ACE) college credit recommendations for typical training experiences for Soldiers in your MOS — from Basic Training through the Sergeants Major Academy — plus college credit recommendations for all MOS skill levels. More than just identifying potential college credit awards for your military training and MOS, SOC staff have pre-negotiated the maximum amount of college credit that will be granted and incorporated into your degree map. Knowing what college credits will be awarded *when* you make Staff Sergeant or Sergeant First Class will insure that you do not take unnecessary or duplicate courses that would later be satisfied through evaluated college credit for your military experiences.

**How are SOC, SOCAD, and SOCAD Army Career Degrees related?**

**SOC** stands for Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges, a consortium of more than 1,800 colleges and universities pledged to deal fairly with Soldiers on issues that concern them such as evaluated credit for military training and experience, academic residency, credit transfer, and testing.

**SOCAD** is the acronym for the SOC Army Degree system, more than 120 of the SOC institutions that take additional steps by providing individual evaluations and degree plans called SOCAD Student Agreements and participating in course transfer guarantees within hundreds of SOC Course Categories.

**SOCAD Army Career Degrees (ACD)** are detailed degree plans created by selected SOCAD colleges that pre-evaluate *ACE Guide* college credit recommendations for specific MOSSs and match them to degrees normally taken by civilians in similar occupations.

The ACD program is one of several post-secondary education program options available to Soldiers through SOCAD. Consider a SOCAD degree offered by one of the more than 120 colleges and universities conducting traditional classes at Army installations worldwide. There are additional distance learning options in SOCAD that use internet and other distance learning instructional media. SOCAD also offers degrees from Learning Assessment colleges that evaluate your experiences for credit, identify what you still need to learn, and manage your program to completion with no academic residency requirement.

If earning a college degree is not something you want to do right now, there are certification and licensure options you can pursue. Go to the Credentialing Opportunities On-line (COOL) Web site:

**<https://www.cool.army.mil>**

Learn how these opportunities can enhance your career within the military and your civilian employment options after your transition from military service.

**Discuss your professional development options with an Army Education Center counselor.**